In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 10 to 18 without prejudice and add the following claims 19 to 27:

Claims 1 to 9 (previously canceled).

Claims 10 to 18 (canceled).

19(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble sait thereof:

wherein **R1** denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom, a C₁-C₄-alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl group, a C₁-C₄-alkoxy group or a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkoxy group; wherein **R2**, **R3**, **R4**, **R5**, **R6** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄-alkoxy group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkoxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl group,

a C_1 - C_4 -alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a -C(O)CH₃ group, a -C(O)CF₃ group, an - $Si(CH_3)_3$ group, a C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3 - C_4 -dihydroxyalkyl group, a -CH=CHR7 group, a -CH=CHR7 group, a -CH₂)_p-CO₂R8 group or a -CH₂)_p-R9 with p = 1,2,3 or 4, a -C(R10)=NR11 or C(R12)H-NR13R14 group, or two adjacent R2 to R6 groups form an -C-CH₂-C- bridge;

R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a -CO₂R12 group or a -C(O)CH₃ group;

R8, R10 and R13 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C₁-C₄-alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, R14 and R15 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄- alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl group, a C₃-C₄-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula

R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group, and provided that the at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I) does not have a center of symmetry and that, if one of R3 and R6 denotes an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group, another of

R3 and R6 different from said one of R3 and R6 does not denote an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group.

20(new). The colorant according to claim 19, wherein R1 denotes hydrogen.

21(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:

wherein R1 denotes hydrogen;

wherein **R2**, **R3**, **R4**, **R5**, **R6** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄-alkoxy group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkoxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a -C(O)CH₃ group, a -C(O)CF₃ group, an -Si(CH₃)₃ group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl group, a C₃-C₄-dihydroxyalkyl group, a -CH=CH**R7** group,

a -(CH₂)_p-CO₂R8 group or a -(CH₂)_p-R9 with p = 1,2,3 or 4, a -C(R10)=NR11 or C(R12)H-NR13R14 group, or two adjacent R2 to R6 groups form an -O-CH₂-O- bridge;

R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a -CO₂R12 group or a -C(O)CH₃ group;

R8, R10 and R13 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C_1 - C_4 -alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, R14 and R15 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄- alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl group, a C₃-C₄-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula

R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group; and

wherein four of **R2**, **R3**, **R4**, **R5** and **R6** each denote hydrogen while a remaining fifth of **R2**, **R3**, **R4**, **R5** and **R6** is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a methyl group, an amino group, a hydroxy group, a methoxy group, C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkyl groups and C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkoxy groups; and

provided that the at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I) does not have a center of symmetry.

22(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:

wherein R1, R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6 each denote hydrogen.

23(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:

wherein R1 denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_4 -alkyl group, a C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkyl group, a C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy group or a C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkoxy group;

wherein R2, R3, R4, R5, R6 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy group, a C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkoxy group, a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl group, a C_1 - C_4 -alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a -C(O)CH3 group, a -C(O)CH3 group, an -C(O)CH3 group, a -C(O)CH3 group or a -C(O)CH3 group o

R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a -CO₂R12 group or a -C(O)CH₃ group;

R8, R10 and R13 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C₁-C₄-alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, R14 and R15 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄- alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl group, a C₃-C₄-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula

R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group; and

wherein four of **R2**, **R3**, **R4**, **R5** and **R6** each denote hydrogen while a remaining fifth is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a methyl group, an amino group, a hydroxy group, a methoxy group, C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl groups and C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkoxy groups; and

provided that the at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I) does not have a center of symmetry.

24(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl, 2,4'-dihydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl, 2-hydroxy-5-amino-4'-(2"-hydroxyethoxy)-biphenyl, 2,4'-dihydroxy-5-amino-2'-methylbiphenyl, 2-hydroxy-5-amino-4'-(2"-hydroxyethyl)biphenyl and 2-hydroxy-5,4'-diaminobiphenyl; or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof.

25(new). The colorant according to claim 19, containing from about 0.005 to 20.0 wt. % of said at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I).

26(new). The colorant according to claim 19, having a pH of 6.5 to 11.5.

27(new). A 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (la), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:

$$R3$$
 $R4$
 $R5$
 $R6$
 $R1$
 $R1$
 $R1$
 $R1$
 $R1$

wherein R1 denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom, a C₁-C₄-alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxy-alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-alkoxy group or a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkoxy group;
R2, R3, R4, R5, R6 can be equal or different and independently of each other denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄-alkoxy group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkoxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a -C(O)CH₃ group, a -C(O)CF₃ group, an -Si(CH₃)₃ group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl group, a C₃-C₄-dihydroxyalkyl group, a -CH=CHR7 group, a -(CH₂)_p-CO₂R8 group or a -(CH₂)_p-R9 with p = 1,2,3 or 4, a -C(R10)= NR11 or C(R12)H-NR13R14 group, or two adjacent R2 to R6 groups form an -O-CH₂-O- bridge;
R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a -CO₂R12 group or a -C(O)CH₃ group;

R8, R10 and R13 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C_1 - C_4 -alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, R14 and R15 can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄- alkyl group, a C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl group, a C₃-C₄-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula

R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group; and

with the proviso that (*i*) the compound of formula (Ia) does not have a center of symmetry; that (*ii*) R2 does not denote hydrogen or a hydroxy group; that (*iii*) if one of R3 and R6 denotes an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group, another of R3 and R6 different from said one of R3 and R6 does not denote an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group; and that (*iv*) if R1 and three of the R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6 each denote hydrogen, and one of the remaining R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6 denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom or a C₁- to C₆-alkyl group, another of the remaining R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6 does not denote a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₄-alkylthioether group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkyl amino group, a dialkylamino group or a trifluoromethyl group.